

Souder
Spence
Stearns
Stump
Sununu
Sweeney
Talent
Tancred
Tausin
Taylor (NC)
Terry

Thomas
Thornberry
Thune
Tiahrt
Toomey
Upton
Vitter
Walden
Walsh
Wamp
Watkins

Watts (OK)
Weldon (FL)
Weldon (PA)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson
Wolf
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—205

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Allen
Andrews
Baird
Baldacci
Baldwin
Barcia
Barrett (WI)
Becerra
Bentsen
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Bishop
Blagojevich
Blumenauer
Bonior
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady (PA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Campbell
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Carson
Clay
Clayton
Clement
Clyburn
Condit
Conyers
Costello
Coyne
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Deutsch
Dicks
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Farr
Fattah
Filner
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Ganske
Gejdenson
Gephardt
Gilman
Gonzalez
Green (TX)

Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hastings (FL)
Hill (IN)
Hilliard
Hinche
Hinojosa
Hoeffel
Holden
Holt
Hooley
Hoyer
Inlee
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind (WI)
Klecza
Klink
Kucinich
LaFalce
Lampson
Lantos
Larson
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lofgren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Martinez
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Miller
McDonald
Miller, George
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Moore
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Norwood

Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Owens
Pallone
Pascarell
Pastor
Payne
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Price (NC)
Rahall
Rangel
Reyes
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Sabo
Sanchez
Sanders
Sandlin
Sawyer
Schakowsky
Scott
Serrano
Sherman
Shows
Sisisky
Skeltan
Slaughter
Snyder
Spratt
Stabenow
Stark
Stenholm
Strickland
Stupak
Tanner
Tauscher
Taylor (MS)
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thurman
Tierney
Towns
Traficant
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Velazquez
Vento
Visclosky
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Weiner
Wexler
Weygand
Wise
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn

NOT VOTING—2

McKinney

Scarborough

□ 1724

Mrs. ROUKEMA changed her vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate agrees to the report of the Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2606) "An Act making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes."

The message also announced that pursuant to Public Law 104-1, the Chair, on behalf of the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate and the Speaker and Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, announces the joint appointment of the following individuals as members of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance—Alan V. Friedman, of California; Susan B. Robfogel, of New York; and Barbara Childs Wallace, of Mississippi.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, this afternoon I recorded my vote by electronic device in favor of the rule to consider the Quality Care for the Uninsured Act, H.R. 2990. Subsequently and unexpectedly, that vote was reordered due to a failure with the electronic equipment, and I was not advised of this in time to return to the Capitol to recast my vote.

BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS MANAGED CARE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to House Resolution 323 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2723.

□ 1725

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2723) to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage, with Mr. HASTINGS of Washington in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY), the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. GOODLING), the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. CLAY), the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARCHER), and the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) will each control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. BLILEY).

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 6 minutes.

Mr. Chairman, over 5 years ago, Republicans in Congress stood efficient against a very bad idea, an attempted Government takeover of our Nation's health care system. Back then, we opposed President Clinton's vision of health care reform primarily because of the negative effects his proposal would have on employers and the negative effects it would have on consumers' ability to choose their own physicians.

Mr. Chairman, we won that debate over how to best reform our health care system. We won that debate because the public agreed that Government micromanagement of our health care system was wrong. The public agreed that imposing expensive new burdens on employers would result in an increase in premiums and would cause businesses to drop their health care coverage.

Now today we are faced with another debate about the direction of our Nation's health care system. Mr. Chairman, once again, we must decide whether we want to move toward a Government-controlled health care system or instead enact reasonable protections for patients that maintain quality without driving up costs. I stand here today with a firm hope that we will prevail in this fight similar to the way we did 5 years ago.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think that anyone would question my long-standing commitment to ensuring that the United States maintains its high quality health care system and that Americans of all walks of life have access to that system.

□ 1730

Unfortunately, I believe that H.R. 2723, the Norwood-Dingell bill, is misdirected in several fundamental ways and ultimately will harm the very people it intends to help.

My views on health care reform are fairly straightforward. First, we should do no harm. Doctors take the Hippocratic oath; we legislators should follow a similar injunction. We should vote down health reform legislation that harms patients. We should avoid legislation that increases the number of uninsured in this country. For all the attention that has been given in this debate to denied care, I think we should focus on the worst kind of denial, and that is denial to any form of health insurance at all.

Forty-four point three million persons are uninsured today, and we ought not be adding to that number; we should be subtracting from it.

Second, when we do enact patient protections, they should be just that, patient protections; not provider protections, not insurer protections but patient protections. That is why I have been an ardent supporter of a fair and just external review process.